

## support us



**Volunteer** to write birthday cards or help run Connection Events in your state or territory



**Fundraise** by becoming a CREATE Champion to raise awareness through fun runs and other events across Australia



**Donate** once-off or through workplace giving so that you can invest in changing the lives of children and young people in care



**Become a CREATE Mate** if you are a sector worker to spread the word about CREATE to your colleagues, deliver CREATE's key messages and encourage children and young people in care to sign up to clubCREATE



**Become a Corporate Partner** and fund projects or staff positions, offer in-kind services or encourage your staff to participate in fundraising activities or volunteer at CREATE events.

Please visit our website for more information on supporting CREATE and help improve the lives of children and young people with a care experience  
[www.create.org.au](http://www.create.org.au)



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 1800 655 105

 [facebook.com/CREATEfnd](https://www.facebook.com/CREATEfnd)

 @CREATEfnd

1800 655 105 is a free-call number that young people in care and their carers can use. However, there may be fees charged if calling from a mobile.

If you are a person with a vision impairment, you can visit our website to download this brochure in large print.

# create

FOUNDATION



## creating a better life for children and young people in care

## who we are

CREATE Foundation is the national peak consumer body for children and young people with an out-of-home care experience. We represent the voices of over 43,000 children and young people currently in care, and those who have transitioned from care up to the age of 25.

Our vision is that all children and young people with a care experience reach their full potential.

Our mission is to create a better life for children and young people in care.

To do this we;

**Connect** children and young people to each other, CREATE and their Community to

**Empower** children and young people to build self-confidence, self-esteem, and skills that enable them to have a voice and be heard to

**Change** the care system, in consultation with children and young people, through advocacy to improve policies, practices and services, and increase community awareness.

We achieve our mission by facilitating a variety of programs and services for children and young people with a statutory care experience and developing policy and research to advocate for a better care system.

Almost half of children admitted to out-of-home care are under the age of 5.

'Child Protection Australia 2012-13' (AIHW)

# what we do

## CONNECT

clubCREATE is the gateway to CREATE programs and services and is available nationally for children and young people aged 0 to 25 who have a statutory care experience. It's free to join and by signing up, children and young people receive:



**A Welcome Pack** including a membership card and other great merchandise



**An Entering Care Kit** containing a backpack, book and toy for new members entering care for the first time



**A birthday card** to celebrate their special day



**Regular clubCREATE magazines** full of inspiring stories, fun activities and competitions with great prizes to be won

**Connection Events** are held throughout the year and are a great place for children, young people and carers to connect with each other in a fun environment and meet the CREATE team in their state or territory.

**"I just wanted to let you know how relevant your service is for children in care. Like our little one, most children don't receive mail, birthday cards or special parcels... You give a child, and families like ours, a sense of connection and value."**

Denise, kinship carer



## EMPOWER

CREATE offers various training programs and workshops designed to develop leadership abilities and the life skills needed to succeed in life, at home and at work. There is a strong emphasis on encouragement, developing self confidence and enhancing social skills.

Youth Advisory Groups are groups of children and young people aged 10 to 25 who meet regularly, usually at a fun activity, to talk about their experiences within the care system and be heard. They can also provide input into resource development, programs and general government or policy.

### Some stats about life in care:

**31%**

of kids attended three or more primary schools while in care

Only **50%**

of children and young people know enough about why they are in care

Only **33%**

of young people know of transition from care plans

**83%**

of children and young people are happy with their current placement

**"[Doing Speak Up and being involved with CREATE] brings closure. I never felt like I could speak up or like I was being listened to before. But now everyone's listening and people are really taking something away from our stories."**

Kayla, clubCREATE member



## CHANGE

CREATE undertakes projects where children and young people from all over the country are invited to have their say about being in care. CREATE collects this information and makes recommendations to the government on how to improve the care system. Topics covered in the past include education, health and transitioning from care.

Young people have opportunities to have a say about the decisions that impact their lives and the out-of-home care systems in Australia. Their voices are included in CREATE reports and submissions to governments and key decision makers. Young Consultants have represented CREATE and other young people in care at local, state and national events and forums.